# PCT

# REQUEST

The undersigned requests that the present international application be processed according to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.

For receiving Office use only	у ———
International Application No.	
International Filing Date	
·	•
Name of receiving Office and "PCT Internations	d Application"

according to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.	Name of receiving Offi	ce and "PC1 international Application"
•	Applicant's or agent's i (if desired) (12 characte	file reference ers maximum) H1875 PCT S3
Box No. I TITLE OF INVENTION		
STEROID MODIFIED SOLATRIOSES		·
Box No. II APPLICANT	son is also inventor	
Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)		
GLYCOMED SCIENCES LIMITED  Facsimile No.		
P.O. Box 115 Turramurra NSW 2074		Teleprinter No.
AU		
AU	,	Applicant's registration No. with the Office
State (that is, country) of nationality:  AU	State (that is, country) AU	of residence:
This person is applicant for the purposes of:  all designated states all design the United		the United States the States indicated in the Supplemental Box
Box No. III FURTHER APPLICANT(S) AND/OR (FUR	THER) INVENTOR(S)	
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GB		Applicant's registration No. with the Office
State (that is, country) of nationality:  GB	State (that is, country)  GB	of residence:
This person is applicant all designated for the purposes of:		the United States of America only the States indicated in the Supplemental Box
Further applicants and/or (further) inventors are indicate	d on a continuation sheet.	
Box No. IV AGENT OR COMMON REPRESENTATIVE; OR ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE		
The person identified below is hereby/has been appointed to acoust the applicant(s) before the competent International Authorities.	et on behalf ies as:	agent common representative
Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation.  The address must include postal code and name of country.)  Telephone No.  +49 89 41 30 40		
Vossius & Partner Siebertstraße 4		Facsimile No. +49 89 41 30 4111
81675 Munich		Teleprinter No.
Germany		releptiment ivo.
		Agent's registration No. with the Office
Address for correspondence: Mark this check-box where no agent or common representative is/has been appointed and the space above is used instead to indicate a special address to which correspondence should be sent.		

Continuation of Box No. III FURTHER APPLICANT(S) AND/OR (FURTHER) INVENTOR(S)		
If none of the following sub-boxes is used, this sheet should no	ot be included in the req	quest.
Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entitle address must include postal code and name of country. The country of Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence WEYMOUTH-WILSON, Alexander Charles Dextra Laboratories, Ltd.  Earley Gate, Whiteknights Road Reading RG6 6BZ GB	the address indicated in this	This person is:  applicant only  applicant and inventor  inventor only (If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)  Applicant's registration No. with the Office
State (that is, country) of nationality:  GB	State (that is, country,	) of residence:
This person is applicant all designated for the purposes of:	d States except states of America	the United States of America only the States indicated in the Supplemental Box
Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)  This person is:  applicant only  applicant and inventor  inventor only (If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)  Applicant's registration No. with the Office		
State (that is, country) of nationality:	State (that is, country	) of residence:
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Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal en The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of reside	the address indicated in this	This person is:  applicant only  applicant and inventor  inventor only (If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)  Applicant's registration No. with the Office
State (that is, country) of nationality:	State (that is, country	) of residence:
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Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal en The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of reside	the address indicated in this	This person is:  applicant only  applicant and inventor  inventor only (If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)  Applicant's registration No. with the Office
State (that is, country) of nationality:	State (that is, country,	of residence:
This person is applicant all designated all designate for the purposes of: States all designated the United States	ed States except States of America	the United States the States indicated in the Supplemental Box
Further applicants and/or (further) inventors are indicated		

Box No. V DESIGNA	TIONS			
The filing of this request co filing date, for the grant of	nstitutes under Rule 4.9(a), the every kind of protection availab	e designation of all Controls and, where applicable,	acting States bound by th for the grant of both regi	e PCT on the international ional and national patents.
However,		•		
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RU Russian Federati	on is not designated for any ki	nd of national protection		
the national law, of an earl	y be used to exclude (irrevocabl ier national application from wi ns in these and certain other St	hich priority is claimed. S		
Box No. VI PRIORITY	Y CLAIM		·	
The priority of the following	g earlier application(s) is hereb	y claimed:		
Filing date	Number	v	Where earlier application	is:
of earlier application (day/month/year)	of earlier application	national application: country or Member of WTO	regional application:* regional Office	international application: receiving Office
item (1) July 8, 2003	03 01 5501.4	·	EP ·	
item (2)				
item (3)		·		
		1		
Further priority claim	s are indicated in the Suppleme	ntal Box.		
The receiving Office is req the earlier application was above as:	The receiving Office is requested to prepare and transmit to the International Bureau a certified copy of the earlier application(s) (only if the earlier application was filed with the Office which for the purposes of this international application is the receiving Office) identified above as:			
				••
* Where the earlier application Industrial Property or one	ition is an ARIPO application, in Member of  the World Trade Or	ndicate at least one country rganization for which that (	y party to the Paris Conve earlier application was fi	ention for the Protection of led (Rule 4.10(b)(ii)):
Box No. VII INTERNA	TIONAL SEARCHING AUT	THORITY		
Choice of International S international search, indica ISA / EPO	tearching Authority (ISA) (if to the the Authority chosen; the two	-letter code may be used):	Searching Authorities are	competent to carry out the
Request to use results of earlier search; reference to that search (if an earlier search has been carried out by or requested from the				
International Searching Authority):				
Date (day/month/year) Number Country (or regional Office)				
Box No. VIII DECLARATIONS				
The following declarations are contained in Boxes Nos. VIII (i) to (v) (mark the applicable check-boxes below and indicate in the right column the number of each type of declaration):  Number of declarations				
Box No. VIII (i) Declaration as to the identity of the inventor :				
Box No. VIII (ii)  Declaration as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the international filing date, to apply for and be granted a patent:				
Box No. VIII (iii) Declaration as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the international filing date, to claim the priority of the earlier application :				
Box No. VIII (iv) Declaration of inventorship (only for the purposes of the designation of the United States of America)				
Box No. VIII (v) Declaration as to non-prejudicial disclosures or exceptions to lack of novelty:				

This international applications centains: 0   to paper form, the following number of sheets: 1   Ge calculation sheet   1   Ge calculation sheet   2   description (excluding description (excluding table)   3   description (excluding table)   4   description (excluding table)   5   table related thereto)   15   5   distinct   1   6   description (excluding table)   5   distinct   1   6   description (excluding table)   5   distinct   1   6   distinct   1   6   description (excluding table)   7   drawings   drawings   7   drawings   draw	Box No. IX CHECK LIST; LANGUAGE OF FILING			
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description (excluding sequence listing and/or tables related thereto)   15   15   15   15   15   16   16   16	request (including		:	
sequence listing and/or tables related thereto)   15   claims   9   abstract   1   drawings   5   statement explaining lack of signature   5   statement explaining lack of signature   1   drawings   5   statement explaining lack of signature   1   drawings   5   statement explaining lack of signature   5   statement explaining lack of			:	
claims   9   abstract   1   drawings   5	sequence listing and/or		:	
abstract		4. copy of general power of attorney; reference number, if any:	:	
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Figure of the drawings which should accompany the abstract:  Language of filing of the international application:  Box No. X SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, AGENT OR COMMON REPRESENTATIVE  Next to each signature, indicate the name of the person signing and the capacity in which the person signs (if such capacity is not obvious from reading the request).  Vossius & Partner  Siebertstr. 4  81675 München (Nr. 31)  For receiving Office use only  1. Date of actual receipt of the purported international application:  3. Corrected date of actual receipt due to later but timely received papers or drawings completing the purported international application:  4. Date of timely receipt of the required corrections under PCT Article 11(2):  5. International Searching Authority (if two or more are competent): ISA /  For International Bureau use only  Date of receipt of the record copy		•	:	
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Next to each signature, indicate the name of the person signing and the capacity in which the person signs (if such capacity is not obvious from reading the request).  Vossius & Partner Siebertstr. 4 81675 München (Nr. 31)  European Patent Attorney  Por receiving Office use only  1. Date of actual receipt of the purported international application:  3. Corrected date of actual receipt due to later but timely received papers or drawings completing the purported international application:  4. Date of timely receipt of the required corrections under PCT Article 11(2):  5. International Searching Authority (if two or more are competent): ISA /  For International Bureau use only  Date of receipt of the record copy	should accompany the abstract:	international application:		
Siebertstr. 4 81675 München (Nr. 31)  For receiving Office use only  1. Date of actual receipt of the purported international application:  3. Corrected date of actual receipt due to later but timely received papers or drawings completing the purported international application:  4. Date of timely receipt of the required corrections under PCT Article 11(2):  5. International Searching Authority (if two or more are competent): ISA /  For International Bureau use only  Date of receipt of the record copy	Box No. X SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT Next to each signature, indicate the name of the person sign	Γ, AGENT OR COMMON REPRESENTATIVE ning and the capacity in which the person signs (if such capacity in which the person signs (if such capacity is not obvious from	n reading the request).	
Dr. Rudolf Weinbergek  European Patent Attorney  For receiving Office use only  1. Date of actual receipt of the purported international application:  3. Corrected date of actual receipt due to later but timely received papers or drawings completing the purported international application:  4. Date of timely receipt of the required corrections under PCT Article 11(2):  5. International Searching Authority (if two or more are competent): ISA /  Date of receipt of the record copy  For International Bureau use only  Date of receipt of the record copy	$\mathbb{D} \cap \mathbb{C}$	Vossius & Partne	r	
European Patent Attorney  For receiving Office use only  1. Date of actual receipt of the purported international application:  3. Corrected date of actual receipt due to later but timely received papers or drawings completing the purported international application:  4. Date of timely receipt of the required corrections under PCT Article 11(2):  5. International Searching Authority (if two or more are competent): ISA /  Date of receipt of the record copy  Bate of receipt of the record copy  Bate of receipt of the record copy	1 X Gentle	Siebertstr. 4		
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FEE CALCULATION SHEET  Annex to the Request	International Application No.
Applicant's or agent's file reference H1875 PCT S3	Date stamp of the receiving Office
Applicant GLYCOMED SCIENCES LIMITED	
CALCULATION OF PRESCRIBED FEES	
1. TRANSMITTAL FEE	EUR 100.00 T
SEARCH FEE	EUR 1,550.00 S
(If two or more International Searching Authorities are competent international search, indicate the name of the Authority which is of the international search.)	
3. INTERNATIONAL FILING FEE	
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additional component (only if sequence listing and/or tables rethereto are filed in computer readable form under Section 801 or both in that form and on paper, under Section 801(a)(ii)):	elated (a)(i),
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(Applicants from certain States are entitled to a reduction of 7: international filing fee. Where the applicant is (or all applican entitled, the total to be entered at I is 25% of the international filin	ts are) so
4. FEE FOR PRIORITY DOCUMENT (if applicable)	EUR 30.00 P
5. TOTAL FEES PAYABLE	EUR 2,582.00 TOTAL
MODE OF PAYMENT	
authorization to charge deposit account (see below)	cash coupons
cheque bank draft	revenue stamps other (specify):
AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE (OR CREDIT) DEPOSIT ACC (This mode of payment may not be available at all receiving Offices)	OUNT Receiving Office: RO/ EPO
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(This check-box may be marked only if the conditions for deposit acco	Date: August 8, 2004
of the receiving Office so permit) Authorization to charge any deficie or credit any overpayment in the total fees indicated above.	Name: Dr. Rudolf Weinberger
Authorization to charge the fee for priority document.	Signature:
Form PCT/RO/101 (Annex) (January 2004)	\ See Notes to the fee calculation shee

PCT-Patent Application based on EP 03 01 5501.4 GlycoMed Sciences Limited Our Ref.: H1875 PCT S3 VOSSIUS 1 PARTICIPATE A PATENTANIA TE LE PATENTANIA LA PATENTANIA LE PATENTANIA LE PATENTANIA LE PATENTANIA LA PAT

SIEBERTSTR. 4 81675 MÜNCHEN

0 8. Juli 2004

# Steroid modified Solatrioses

The present invention relates to the chemical synthesis of alkaloid glycosides, in particular to the synthesis of steroid modified solatrioses. Furthermore, the present invention relates to novel steroid modified solatrioses and intermediate compounds useful for the synthesis thereof.

Solasodine and its glycosides are of considerable interest commercially and clinically. They are widely used as starting products for the synthesis of various steroidal drugs. The aglycon solasodine is a source for synthetic cortisone and progesterone.

It is moreover well established that certain naturally occurring conjugate solasodine glycosides have potent antineoplastic properties. Of particular interest is the triglycoside solasonine (22R, 25R)-spiro-5-en-3 $\beta$ -yl- $\alpha$ -L-rhamno-pyranosyl-(1->2 gal)-O-p-D-glucopyranosyl-(1->3 gal)- $\beta$ -D-galactopyranose. The structure of this triglycoside is as follows:

$$H_3C$$
 $CH_3$ 
 $H_3C$ 
 $CH_3$ 
 $H_3C$ 
 $H_3C$ 

Solasonine

The above triglycoside is conventionally obtained by extraction from a plant source. A commercially available extract of *S. sodomaeum*, commonly referred to as BEC

(Drug Future, 1988, vol. 13.8, pages 714-716) is a crude mixture of solamargine, solasonine and their isomeric diglycosides. The extraction process for making BEC involves homogenizing the fruits of *S. sodomaeum* in a large volume of acetic acid, filtering off the liquid through muslin followed by precipitation of the glycosides with ammonia (Drugs of today (1990), Vol. 26 No. 1, p. 55-58, cancer letters (1991), Vol. 59, p. 183-192). The yield of the solasodine glycoside mixture is very low (approx. 1%). Moreover the individual process steps are not defined to GMP in terms of scale up, definition of yield, composition and product quality.

There is a great need for a cost efficient process that provides the antineoplastically active triglycoside solasonine at high yield with little or no impurities.

Contrary to other steroid ring systems, the steroid skeleton of solasodine contains a very labile nitrogen-containing ring. The same holds true for the steroid ring systems of relared alkaloids such as tomatidine, demissidine or solanidine. These aglycons cannot readily be chemically modified while keeping the steroid skeleton intact. In spite of the fact that the aglycon solasodine is readily available, the prior art does not disclose the synthesis of the solasonine using the aglycon material as starting material.

The synthesis of solasonine requires the stereoselective glycosylation of solasodine at the relatively unreactive hydroxyl group.

It has been found that solasodine is not compatible with the conventional steroid glycosylation technique. No glycosylation was observed following the treatment of solasodine with tetrabenzoyl  $\alpha$ -D-glucopyranosyl trichloroacetimidate and trimethyl-silyl triflate or boron trifluoride dietherate (unpublished results).

The problem underlying the present invention is to provide a cost effective method for the preparation of solasonine and solasonine analogues in high yields.

Such compounds exhibit cytotoxic activity and may be employed as anticancer agents. Furthermore, such compounds exhibit anti bacterial, anti fungal or anti viral activity.

Accordingly, the present invention provides a method for the preparation of a steroid modified solatriose of general formula (I):

#### Formula (I)

wherein  $R^1$  represents a steroid or a derivative thereof having a hydroxyl group in 3-position and no further unprotected hydroxyl groups; and  $R^2$  represents a straight or branched  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl group or a hydroxyl group.

The method of the present invention comprises the step of: reacting a compound of general formula (XIII):

#### Formula (XIII)

wherein each R<sup>4</sup> independently represents a benzoyl, acetyl or pivolyl protecting group; R<sup>6</sup> represents a pivolyl protecting group; R<sup>8</sup> represents a chloroacetyl protecting group; R<sup>9</sup> represents a benzoyl, acetyl or pivolyl protecting group and Tf represents a triflate leaving group;

with a compound of general formula (XIV):

wherein R<sup>1</sup> is as defined above, to yield a compound of general formula (XV):

Formula (XV)

wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>6</sup>, R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> are as defined above.

The compound of the above general formula (XV) may be transformed to the desired steroid modified solatriose of general formula (I) by any suitable method known in the art. A particular preferred procedure is described in detail below.

Furthermore, the present application provides steroid modified solatriose compounds of general formula (I) as defined above, wherein R<sup>1</sup> represents a tomatidin-3-yl, demissidin-3-yl, solanidin-3-yl or solasodin-3-yl group.

A further object of the present application is the provision of intermediate compounds useful for the synthesis of the steroid modified solatriose of general formula (I) defined above, namely:

A compound of general formula (XVII):

Formula (XVII)

wherein  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^4$ ,  $R^6$ , and  $R^9$  are as defined above.

A compound of general formula (XV) as defined above

A compound of general formula (X):

#### Formula (X)

wherein  $R^6$ ,  $R^8$  and  $R^9$  are as defined above; and  $R^5$  represents a straight or branched  $C_{1-14}$  alkyl group or a phenyl group optionally substituted with one or more  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl groups, halogen atom such as Cl, F, Br or I, or  $NO_2$  group.

A compound of general formula (XII):

Formula (XII)

wherein R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>6</sup>, R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> are as defined above.

Further embodiments of the present application are described in the dependent claims.

# Detailed description of the invention

In the following, the present invention will be explained in more detail with reference to preferred embodiments. The steroid residue constituting substituent  $R^1$  is a steroid or a derivative thereof having a hydroxyl group in the 3-position for bonding as  $\alpha$ -glycosidic hydroxyl group in the compound of general formula (I). The steroid residue bears no further unprotected hydroxyl groups and preferably has no further hydroxyl groups at all, in order not to compromise subsequent reaction steps. In a preferred embodiment of the present invention  $R^1$  is selected from a tomatidin-3-yl, demissidin-3-yl, solanidin-3-yl and solasodin-3-yl group.

All of those steroid groups contain a labile nitrogen-containing ring and, therefore, cannot be chemically modified by means of conventional methods. Moreover, all of the above steroid groups represent substituents for cyctotoxic, anti bacterial, anti fungal or anti viral compounds.

In the above general formula (I) each R<sup>2</sup> independently represents a straight or branched alkyl group having 1 to 4 carbon atoms or a hydroxyl group. In a preferred embodiment, R<sup>2</sup> represents a methyl group.

According to a preferred embodiment of the method of the present invention, galactose is reacted in step (A) to yield a compound of general formula (II):

## Formula (II)

wherein R<sup>3</sup> represents a chlorine or bromine atom; and each R<sup>4</sup> independently represents a benzoyl, acetyl or pivolyl protecting group. In a preferred embodiment R<sup>3</sup> represent a bromine atom. In another preferred embodiment R<sup>4</sup> represents an acetyl protecting group.

Step (A) may be carried out using either acetic anhydride, acetyl chloride, benzoyl chloride, benzoic anhydride, or pivolyl chloride in the presence of a base such as, e.g., pyridine, triethylamine, or collidine, to give fully esterified galactose. Esterified-

D-galactopyranose may be treated with hydrogenbromide or hydrogenchloride in glacial acetic acid to yield the above compound of general formula (II).

In a particularly preferred embodiment galactose is suspended in organic base such as pyridine and cooled to 0°C, to this solution is added dropwise either acetic anhydride, benzoic anhydride or acid chloride. Upon complete addition the solution is warmed to +25°C (room temperature) and stirred for about 16 hours. The reaction is quenched by addition of alcohol. The solution is diluted with organic solvent such as tert-butylmethyl ether, or dichloromethane, or toluene and washed with cold 1N HCl, water, saturated sodium bicarbonate, water and brine then the product is dried over magnesium sulfate and concentrated under reduced pressure to dryness. The product can be used without further purification or it can be recrystallised.

The fully esterified galactopyranose in dry solvent such as dichloromethane is cooled to O°C under an inert atmosphere. To this solution is added hydrogen bromide in glacial acetic acid, typically 30% HBr content. The solution is allowed to warm to +25°C (room temperature) and stirred for around 16 hours. The solution is diluted with organic solvent such as dichloromethane and then quickly washed with ice cold water, saturated aqueous sodium bicarbonate, and brine. The product is dried over magnesium sulfate filtered and the solvent is removed under reduced pressure. The product is crystallized from petrol (40-60) and diethyl ether.

In step (B), a compound of general formula (II) is reacted with a compound of general formula (III):

# HS–R⁵

#### Formula (III)

wherein  $R^5$  represents a straight or branched  $C_{1-14}$  alkyl group or a phenyl group optionally substituted with one or more  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl groups; whereby the C1-14 alkyl groups are preferably selected from methyl, ethyl and propyl and the phenyl group is preferably selected form phenyl, p-methylphenyl and p-chlorophenyl; and methyl, ethyl and propyl are particularly preferred;

to yield a compound of general formula (IV):

#### Formula (IV)

wherein R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> are as defined above.

Preferably R<sup>5</sup> is a phenyl group.

Furthermore, in step (C), the compound of general formula (IV) is deprotected to yield a compound of general formula (V):

#### Formula (V)

wherein R<sup>5</sup> is as defined above.

Any suitable deprotection condition conventionally employed in the chemistry of protecting groups may be used. Deprotection is preferably be carried out in an inert organic solvent such as dichloromethane or tetrahydrofuran in the presence of an alkali metal alkoxide having 1 to 4 carbon atoms and a  $C_{1-4}$  alcohol, or in the presence of water, an alkali metal hydroxide and a  $C_{1-4}$  alcohol. In a particular preferred embodiment deprotection in step (C) is carried out in dry methanol with catalytic amount of sodium methoxide.

Subsequently, the OH group in 6-position is selectively protected in step (D) using a bulky protecting group to yield a compound of general formula (VI)

#### Formula (VI)

wherein R<sup>5</sup> is as defined above; and R<sup>6</sup> is a pivolyl, benzoyl or substituted benzoyl protecting group, whereby the substituents are selected from alkyl groups such as methyl, halogen atoms such as Cl, Br, F,and I and NO<sub>2</sub>. Preferably R<sup>6</sup> represents a pivolyl protecting group.

In a preferred embodiment the reaction may be carried out using pivolyl chloride in dry dichloromethane in the presence of pyridine.

In step (E), the OH groups in 3- and 4-position are selectively protected with a ketal or acetal protecting group using standard conditions to yield a compound of general formula (VII):

#### Formula (VII)

wherein R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> are as defined above; and R<sup>7</sup> represents a ketal or acetal type protecting group selected from benzylidene, 4-nitrobenzylidene, 4-methoxybenzylidene or isopropylidene. In a preferred embodiment R<sup>7</sup> represents an isopropylidene protecting group.

The reaction is preferably carried out in a dipolar aprotic solvent such as dimethyl formamide (DMF) or acetone in the presence of acid catalysts such as p-toluene sulfonic acid or camphorsulfonic acid using a 2,2-dialkyloxypropane or an optionally substituted dialkylbenzylidene.

Suitable reaction temperatures range from ambient temperature to elevated temperatures. Preferably the reaction is carried out at a temperature of 25°C.

Moreover, the OH group in 2-position is protected in step (F) by reacting the compound of general formula (VII) with chloroacetyl chloride to yield a compound of general formula (VIII):

#### Formula (VIII)

wherein R<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> are as defined above; and R<sup>8</sup> represents a chloroacetyl protecting group.

The reaction may be carried out in a dry solvent such as dichloromethane with a base such as pyridine or triethylamine at a temperature of from 0°C to 25°C.

In step (G) the compound of general formula (VIII) is deprotected to yield a compound of general formula (IX):

Formula (IX)

wherein R<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>6</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> are as defined above.

Deprotection may be carried out under acidic conditions by treating with aqueous acetic acid, aqueous trifluoroacetic acid or mineral or sulfonic acid.

In step (H) the compound of general formula (IX) is reacted with a trialkylorthoacetate, benzoate or pivolate, wherein the alkyl residues have 1 to 4 carbon atoms, to form an 3,4-ortho ester which is subsequently migrated to the axial 4-position under acidic conditions to yield a compound of general formula (X):

#### Formula (X)

wherein R<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>6</sup>, R<sup>8</sup> are as defined above and R<sup>9</sup> is an acetyl, benzoyl or pivolyl protecting group. In preferred embodiments R<sup>9</sup> represent an acetate or benzoyl protecting group, which may be introduced by means of trimethyl or triethyl orthoacetate or benzoate, most preferably trimethylorthoacetate.

Step (H) may be conducted in an inert organic solvent such as acetonitrile.

Preferably the reaction is carried out in the presence of a catalyst. Any conventional catalyst used in carbohydrate chemistry may be employed. Particular preferred catalysts include p-toluenesulfonic acid, or camphor sulfonic acid. The most preferred catalyst is p-toluenesulfonic acid.

The reaction may preferably be carried out under anhydrous conditions in the presence of a water detracting means such as 4Å mol sieves.

The free OH group in 3-position is reacted in step (I) with a protected halogen glucose derivative of general formula (XI):

Formula (XI)

wherein R<sup>4</sup> is as defined above; and R<sup>10</sup> represent a halogen atom such as fluorine, chlorine or bromine, to yield a compound of general formula (XII):

wherein R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>6</sup>, R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> are as defined above.

The reaction is preferably carried out in the presence of promoters such as silver triflate, zinc dichloride, borontrifluoride diethyletherate, or N-iodosuccinamide/triflic acid.

In a preferred embodiment a dry solvent such as dichloromethane is employed. The reaction temperature is preferably at a range of from –20°C to 25°C.

Activating compound (XII) may be achived in step (J) through the oxidiation of the thio ether to the sulfoxide and the formation of the anomer trifate of general formula (XIII) below, which may exist as either the alpha triflate or the alpha ion pair:

$$OR^9$$
 $OR^9$ 
 $OR^9$ 

Formula (XIII)

wherein R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>6</sup>, R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> are as defined above.

The reaction is preferably carried out by oxidizing the thio ether group to a sulfoxide using hydrogen peroxide, and subsequently treating the resulting intermediate with triflic anhydride. Furthermore, in a particular preferred embodiment, a sterically hindered non-nucleophilic base such as 2,6-lutidine, 2,4,6-collidine or 2,6-di-tertbutyl-4-methyl-pyridine is present. The most preferred sterically hindered base is 2,6-di-tertbutyl-4-methly-pyridine.

In step (K), coupling of the compound of general formula (XIII) with the compound of general formula (XIV)

# HO-R<sup>1</sup> Formula (XIV)

wherein R<sup>1</sup> is as defined above; may be performed in the presence of sterically hindered non-nucleophilic base such as 2,6-lutidine, 2,4,6-collidine or 2,6-di-tertbutyl-4-methyl pyridine, preferably 2,6-di-tertbutyl-4-methyl-pyridine, to yield a compound of general formula (XV):

Formula (XV)

wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>6</sup>, R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> are as defined above.

The reaction may preferably be carried out under anhydrous conditions in the presence of a water detracting means such as 4Å mol sieves.

In a preferred embodiment the reaction is carried out at low temperature such as 0°C or lower, more preferably –10°C or lower. The most preferred reaction temperature is –20°C.

In step (L), the OH group in 2-position substituted with R<sup>8</sup> is selectively deprotected using thio urea in the presence of a sterically hindered base such as 2,6-lutidine, 2,4,6-collidine or 2,6-di-tertbutyl-4-methyl pyridine, preferably 2,6-lutidine, in a dry alcohol such as methanol, ethanol or isopropanol, preferably ethanol, and subsequently reacted with a protected halogen rhanmose derivative of general formula (XVI):

#### Formula (XVI)

wherein R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are as defined above; and R<sup>11</sup> represents a halogen atom such as bromine, chlorine or fluorine, preferably bromine, to yield a compound of general formula (XVII):

Formula (XVII)

wherein  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^4$ ,  $R^6$ , and  $R^9$  are as defined above.

The deprotection in step (M) may be performed under substantially the same conditions as described above for step (C) to yield the compound of general formula (I). In a preferred embodiment, deesterification may by accomplished using sodium methoxide in a methanol/dichloromethane mixture.

#### **Abstract**

The invention pertains to steroid modified solatrioses and the synthesis thereof as well as to intermediate compounds useful for the synthesis of the steroid modified solatrioses.

# Claims

1. A method for the preparation of a steroid modified solatriose of general formula (I):

# Formula (I)

wherein  $R^1$  represents a steroid or a derivative thereof having a hydroxyl group in 3-position and no further unprotected hydroxyl groups; and  $R^2$  represents a straight or branched  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl group or a hydroxyl group, which method comprises the step of:

reacting a compound of general formula (XIII):

$$OR^9$$
 $OR^4$ 
 $OR^8$ 
 $OTf$ 

# Formula (XIII)

wherein each R<sup>4</sup> independently represents a benzoyl, acetyl or pivolyl protecting group; R<sup>6</sup> represents a pivolyl protecting group; R<sup>8</sup> represents a chloroacetyl protecting group; R<sup>9</sup> represents a benzoyl, acetyl or pivolyl protecting group; and Tf represents a triflate leaving group; with a compound of general formula (XIV):

HO-R1

Formula (XIV)

wherein R<sup>1</sup> is as defined above to yield a compound of general formula (XV):

Formula (XV)

wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>6</sup>, R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> are as defined above.

2. The method according to claim 2, further comprising the step of: reacting galactose to yield a galactose fully protected with ester type protecting groups, and subsequently treating with hydrogen bromide or hydrogen chloride to yield a compound of general formula (II):

#### Formula (II)

wherein R<sup>3</sup> represents a chlorine or bromine atom; and R<sup>4</sup> is as defined in claim 1.

3. The method according to claims 1 or 2, further comprising the step: reacting a compound of general formula (II) as defined in claim 2, with a compound of general formula (III):

wherein  $R^5$  represents a straight or branched  $C_{1-14}$  alkyl group or a phenyl group optionally substituted with one or more  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl groups whereby the C1-14 alkyl groups are preferably selected from methyl, ethyl and propyl and the phenyl group is preferably selected form phenyl, p-methylphenyl and p-chlorophenyl; and methyl, ethyl and propyl are particularly preferred; to yield a compound of general formula (IV):

Formula (IV)

wherein R<sup>4</sup> is as defined in claim 1, and R<sup>5</sup> is as defined above.

4. The method according to any of claims 1 to 3, further comprising the step of: deprotecting a compound of general formula (IV) as defined in claim 3 to yield a compound of general formula (V):

Formula (V)

wherein R<sup>5</sup> is as defined in claim 3.

5. The method according to any of claims 1 to 4, further comprising the step of: selectively protecting the OH group in the 6-position of a compound of formula (V) as defined in claim 4 with pivolyl chloride using standard conditions to yield a compound of general formula (VI):

Formula (VI)

wherein  $R^5$  in claim 3; and  $R^6$  is a pivolyl, benzoyl or substituted benzoyl protecting group, whereby the substituents are selected from alkyl groups such as methyl, halogen atoms such as Cl, Br, F, and I and  $NO_2$ .

6. The method according to any of claims 1 to 5, further comprising the step of: selectively protecting the OH groups in 3- and 4-position with a ketal or acetal protecting type protecting group using standard conditions, to yield a compound of general formula (VII):

Formula (VII)

wherein R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> are as defined in claims 3 and 5, respectively; and R<sup>7</sup> represents a ketal or acetal type protecting group selected from the group consisting of benzylidene, 4-nitrobenzylidene, 4-methoxybenzylidene and isopropylidene.

7. The method according to any of claims 1 to 6, further comprising the step of:

protecting the OH group in 2-position of the compound of general formula (VII) as defined in claim 6 with chloroacetyl chloride using standard conditions, to yield a compound of general formula (VIII):

#### Formula (VIII)

wherein R<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>6</sup> and R<sup>7</sup> are as defined in claims 3, 5 and 6, respectively; and R<sup>8</sup> represents a chloroacetyl protecting group.

8. The method according to any of claims 1 to 7, further comprising the step of: selectively deprotecting the OH group in 3- and 4-position of the compound of general formula (VIII) as defined in claim 7 using standard conditions, to yield a compound of general formula (IX):

#### Formula (IX)

wherein R<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>6</sup>, and R<sup>8</sup> are as defined in claims 3, 5 and 7, respectively.

9. The method according to any of claims 1 to 8, further comprising the step of: reacting the compound of general formula (IX) with a trialkylorthoacetate, benzoate or pivolate to form an 3,4-orthor ester which is subsequently

migrated to the axial 4-position under acidic conditions to yield a compound of general formula (X):

#### Formula (X)

wherein R<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>6</sup>, R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> are as defined in claims 3, 5, 7 and 1 respectively.

10. The method according to any of claims 1 to 9, further comprising the step of: reacting the OH group in 3-position of the compound of general formula (X) as defined in claim 9 with a protected halogen glucose derivative of general formula (XI):

## Formula (XI)

wherein R<sup>4</sup> is as defined in claim 1; and R<sup>10</sup> represent a halogen atom, a trichloroacetimidiate group, or a thioalkyl group having 1 to 14 carbon atoms, to yield a compound of general formula (XII):

#### Formula (XII)

wherein R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>6</sup>, R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> are as defined in claims 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9, respectively.

- 11. The method according to any of claims 1 to 10, further comprising the step of: activating the compound of general formula (XII) as defined in claim 10 by oxidizing the thio ether group to a sulfoxide using hydrogen peroxide, and subsequently treating the resulting intermediate with triflic anhydride, to yield a compound of general formula (XIII) as defined in claim 1.
- 12. The method according to any of claims 1 to 13, further comprising the step of: selectively deprotecting the OH group in the 2-position of the compound fo general formula (XV) as defined in claim 1 using thio urea in the presence of a sterically hindered non-nucleophilic base, and subsequently reacting the resulting intermediate with a protected halogen rhanmose derivative of general formula (XVI):

#### Formula (XVI)

wherein R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>10</sup> are as defined in claims 1 and 10, respectively; to yield a compound of general formula (XVII):

Formula (XVII)

wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>6</sup>, and R<sup>9</sup> are as defined in claims 1, 5 and 9, respectively.

- 13. The method according to any of claims 1 to 12, further comprising the step of: deprotecting the compound of general formula (XVII) as defined in claim 12, to yield the compound of general formula (I) as defined in claim 1.
- 14. The method according to any of the preceding claims, wherein R<sup>1</sup> represents a tomatidin-3-yl, demissidin-3-yl, solanidin-3-yl and solasodin-3-yl group.
- 15. The method according to claims any of the preceding claims, wherein R<sup>2</sup> represents a methyl group.
- 16. The method according to any of the preceding claims, wherein R<sup>3</sup> in the compound of general formula (II) represents a bromine atom.
- 17. The method according to any of the preceding claims, wherein R<sup>4</sup> in the compound of general formula (II) represents an acetyl protecting group.
- 18. The method according to any of the preceding claims 1, wherein R<sup>5</sup> in the compound of general formula (III) represents a phenyl group.
- 19. The method according to any of the preceding claims, wherein R<sup>7</sup> in the compound of general formula (VII) represents a isopropylidene protecting group.
- 20. The method according to any of the preceding claims, wherein R<sup>4</sup> in the compounds of general formula (XI) and/or compound of general formula (XVI) represents a benzoyl protecting group.

- 21. The method according to any of the preceding claims, wherein reacting a compound of general formula (XIII) with a compound of general formula (XIV) is carried out in the presence of sterically hindered non-nucleophilic base.
- 22. The method according to claim 21, wherein the sterically hindered non-nucleophilic base is selected from 2,6-lutidine, 2,4,6-collidine or 2,6-di-tertbutyl-4-methyl pyridine.
- 23. A steroid modified solatriose of general formula (I) as defined in claims 1 or 15, wherein R<sup>1</sup> represents a tomatidin-3-yl or demissidin-3-yl group.
- 24. A compound of general formula (XVII) as defined in claims 12 or 15.
- 25. A compound of general formula (XV) as defined in claims 1 and 15.
- 26. A compound of general formula (X) as defined in claim 9.
- 27. A compound of general formula (XII) as defined in claim 10.